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Control: 9388

Rec'd: APRIL 15, 1959  
9:31 A.M.

FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2312, APRIL 15, 1 P.M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 2312; REPEATED INFORMATION LODNON 596,  
PARIS 795, BERLIN 789, USAREUR 544.

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EMBTTEL 2122.

WE DISCUSSED WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH YESTERDAY OUR PROPOSALS  
FOR IDENTIFICATION ALLIED VEHICLES ALONG LINES SUGGESTED  
BERLIN'S ON MARCH 13, SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION US MOTOR  
VEHICLES AND RAILROAD CARS.

FRENCH QUESTIONED NEED SUCH IDENTIFICATION SINCE IN THEIR  
OPINION ALLIED VEHICLES ALREADY HAVE DISTINCT MARKINGS.  
ALSO ASKED WHEN NEW IDENTIFICATION SIGNS WOULD BE PUT TO USE.

IN REPLY, WE SAID NEW IDENTIFICATION INTENDED PROVIDE MORE  
UNIFORM AND DISTINCT MARKINGS ALLIED VEHICLES SO THERE WOULD  
BE ABSOLUTELY NO (REPEAT NO) QUESTION FOR COMMUNISTS CONCERNING  
IDENTITY. AS TO TIMING, WE SAID IT SEEMED MOST DESIRABLE  
USE NEW IDENTIFICATION AS SOON AS TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT REACHED,  
SO THEY WOULD BE IN USE SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE SOVIET  
DECISION TRANSFER RESPONSIBILITY BERLIN ACCESS TO GDR.

BRITISH, ON OTHER HAND, SAID THEY UNABLE DISCUSS OUR PROPOSALS  
UK THINKING NOW CALLS FOR PRESENTATION DOCUMENTS TO GDR  
AND ACCEPTANCE GDR STAMPING. EXPLAINED WORD CONTROL "IN ENGL  
SENSE" DOES NOT IMPLY RIGHT TO INSPECT VEHICLES OR PREVENT  
TRAVEL; IT MERELY ENABLES CONTROLLING OFFICIAL TO ENSURE  
VEHICLE, PERSONS, AND CARGO ARE EXACTLY WHAT THEY ALLEGED

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TO BE. THEREFORE, IN UK VIEW, NO (REPEAT NO) REASON  
GDR SHOULD NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE PERMITTED EXERCISE SAME CONTROLS  
AS SOVIETS. CONSEQUENTLY THEY INSIST THERE NO (REPEAT NO)  
BASIS REFUSE GDR PERMISSION TO STAMP ALLIED DOCUMENTS.

BRUCE

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